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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/584,451	01/23/2007	Sarman Singh	4661-0113PUS1	4154
2252	7590	03/18/2009		
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH			EXAMINER	
PO BOX 747			GRASEK, JENNIFER E	
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1645	
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/18/2009		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

mailroom@bskb.com

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/584,451	Applicant(s) SINGH ET AL.
	Examiner Jennifer E. Graser	Art Unit 1645

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) 1-36 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) _____
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and 372.

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.499, applicant is required, in reply to this action, to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted.

Group I, claim(s) 1, 3 and 4-21, drawn to an isolated polypeptide and a method of detecting anti-leishmanial antibodies by providing a solid support with a polypeptide bound to it and a diagnostic kit for detecting anti-leishmanial antibodies comprising a polypeptide as claimed in claim 1, an anti-human secondary antibody or a protein, wherein said anti-human secondary antibody or the protein is conjugated to an enzyme or a label, and conventional reagents for detecting said antibodies. NOTE: If this Group is elected, Applicant must also elect a single polypeptide for examination, e.g., SEQ ID NO: 5. This is a Restriction Requirement, not a species election.

Group II, claim(s) 2, drawn to an isolated polynucleotide. NOTE: If this Group is elected, Applicant must also elect a single polynucleotide for examination, e.g., SEQ ID NO: 3. This is a Restriction Requirement, not a species election.

Group III, claim(s) 22 and 23, drawn to a method of making antibodies. NOTE: If this Group is elected, Applicant must also elect a single antibody for examination, e.g., an antibody which binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5. This is a Restriction Requirement, not a species election.

Group IV, claim(s) 24-31, drawn to a method of detecting Leishmanial antigens in a sample using antibodies. NOTE: If this Group is elected, Applicant must also elect a single antibody for examination, e.g., an antibody which binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5. This is a Restriction Requirement, not a species election.

Group V claim(s) 32-36, drawn to a diagnostic kit for detecting Leishmanial antigens comprising antibody bound to a solid support or carrier, antibody conjugated to an enzyme or a label and conventional reagents for detecting Leishmanial antigens. NOTE:

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If this Group is elected, Applicant must also elect a single antibody for examination, e.g., an antibody which binds to the polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 5. This is a Restriction Requirement, not a species election.

2. The inventions listed as Groups I-VII do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons:

The inventions of Groups I, II and V do not contain the same or corresponding special feature as they contain products which are biologically, chemically and structurally different. The polypeptide of group I and polynucleotide of group II are patentably distinct inventions for the following reasons. Polypeptides, which are composed of amino acids, and polynucleotides, which are composed of purine and pyrimidine units, are structurally distinct molecules. Additionally, while a polypeptide of group I can made by methods using some, but not all, of the polynucleotides that fall within the scope of group II, it can also be recovered from a natural source using by biochemical means. For instance, the polypeptide can be isolated using affinity chromatography. For these reasons, the inventions of groups I and II lack the same or corresponding special technical features. Furthermore, searching the inventions of groups I and II together would impose a serious search burden. In the instant case, the search of the polypeptides and the polynucleotides are not coextensive. In cases such as this one where descriptive sequence information is provided, the sequences are searched in appropriate databases. There is search burden also in the non-patent literature. Prior to the concomitant isolation and expression of the sequence of interest there may be journal articles devoted solely to polypeptides which would not have described the polynucleotide. Similarly, there may have been "classical" genetics

papers which had no knowledge of the polypeptide but spoke to the gene. Searching, therefore is not coextensive. As such, it would be burdensome to search the inventions of groups I and II together.

The polypeptide of group I and the antibody of group VII lack the same special technical feature for the following reasons: While the inventions of both group I and group III are polypeptides, in this instance the polypeptide of group I is a single chain molecule that functions as an enzyme, whereas the polypeptide of group VII encompasses antibodies including IgG which comprises 2 heavy and 2 light chains containing constant and variable regions, and including framework regions which act as a scaffold for the 6 complementarity determining regions (CDRs) that function to bind an epitope. Thus the polypeptide of group I and the antibody of group VII are structurally distinct molecules. Therefore the polypeptide and antibody lack the same or corresponding special technical feature. Furthermore, searching the inventions of group I and group VII would impose a serious search burden. A polypeptide and an antibody which binds to the polypeptide require different searches. An amino acid sequence search of the full-length protein is necessary for a determination of novelty and unobviousness of the protein. However, such a search is not required to identify the antibodies of group VII. Furthermore, antibodies which bind to an epitope of a polypeptide of group I may be known even if a polypeptide of group VII is novel. In addition, the technical literature search for the polypeptide of group I and the antibody of group VII are not coextensive, e.g., antibodies may be characterized in the technical literature prior to discovery of or sequence of their binding target.

The polynucleotide of group II and the antibody of group VII lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons. The antibody of group VII includes, for example, IgG molecules which comprise 2 heavy and 2 light chains containing constant and variable regions, and including framework regions which act as a scaffold for the 6 complementarity determining regions (CDRs). Polypeptides, such as the antibody of group VII which are composed of amino acids, and polynucleotides, which are composed of nucleic acids, are structurally distinct molecules; any relationship between a polynucleotide and polypeptide is dependent upon the information provided by the nucleic acid sequence open reading frame as it corresponds to the primary amino acid sequence of the encoded polypeptide. In the present claims, a polynucleotide of group I will not encode an antibody of group VII, and the antibody of group VII cannot be encoded by a polynucleotide of group I. Therefore the antibody and polynucleotide lack the same or corresponding special technical features. Furthermore, searching the inventions of group I and group VII would impose a serious search burden since a search of the polynucleotide of group I is would not be used to determine the patentability of an antibody of group VII, and vice-versa.

The methods of Groups III and IV lack the same or corresponding special technical features they are not capable of use together and they have different modes of operation, different functions, or different effects. The instant specification does not disclose that these methods would be used together. The methods are unrelated as they comprise distinct steps and each method has a different mode of operation. The distinct steps require different separate and distinct searches.

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3. The examiner has required restriction between product and process claims.

Where applicant elects claims directed to the product, and the product claims are subsequently found allowable, withdrawn process claims that depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of the allowable product claim will be considered for rejoinder. All claims directed to a nonelected process invention must require all the limitations of an allowable product claim for that process invention to be rejoined.

In the event of rejoinder, the requirement for restriction between the product claims and the rejoined process claims will be withdrawn, and the rejoined process claims will be fully examined for patentability in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104. Thus, to be allowable, the rejoined claims must meet all criteria for patentability including the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 101, 102, 103 and 112. Until all claims to the elected product are found allowable, an otherwise proper restriction requirement between product claims and process claims may be maintained. Withdrawn process claims that are not commensurate in scope with an allowable product claim will not be rejoined. See MPEP § 821.04(b). Additionally, in order to retain the right to rejoinder in accordance with the above policy, applicant is advised that the process claims should be amended during prosecution to require the limitations of the product claims. **Failure to do so may result in a loss of the right to rejoinder.** Further, note that the prohibition against double patenting rejections of 35 U.S.C. 121 does not apply where the restriction requirement is withdrawn by the examiner before the patent issues. See MPEP § 804.01.

Correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Group Art Unit 1645. Papers related to this application may be submitted to Group 1600 by facsimile transmission. Papers should be faxed to Group 1600 via the PTO Fax Center located in Remsen. The faxing of such papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 OG 30 (November

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15,1989). The Group 1645 Fax number is 571-273-8300 which is able to receive transmissions 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer E. Graser whose telephone number is (571) 272-0858. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM-6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Mondesi, can be reached on (571) 272-0956.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-0500.

/Jennifer E. Graser/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1645

3/14/09